

St. Elizabeth R-IV High School

District: St. Elizabeth R-IV Schools

Building Enrollment: 111

Grade Range: 7-12

Building Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer

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A Snapshot of St. Elizabeth R-IVHigh School...

St. Elizabeth R-IV High School, home of the Hornets, proudly proclaims "A Vision for the Future with Respect for the Past." St. Elizabeth R-IV is a small school doing big things in the rural central Missouri community of St. Elizabeth, located just south of the state capital. Throughout the single building that houses all of the district's students in grades seven through twelve, a dedicated staff and enthusiastic students carry on the community's rich academic tradition. Nearly half of St. Elizabeth R-IV High School's staff members completed their education in the building where they now teach, and many of the school's current students are anxious to assume leadership roles in the district themselves.

St. Elizabeth R-IV High School's Mission: "...to provide appropriate assistance to each student in obtaining the knowledge, skills and experiences for success in his/her life through high quality educational programs supported by parents and community, facilitated by effective personnel, and located in appropriate facilities."

Respect for the Past - Carrying on a Tradition of Excellence

St. Elizabeth R-IV High School is proud to carry forth the tradition of excellence that the St. Elizabeth community demands of its schools. A competent and caring staff takes invaluable ownership in the school, its programs and its students. Each teacher, administrator and support staff member is wholly invested in his or her role in shaping the lives of young people. Consequently, the district enjoys a very low staff turnover rate.

The school's small size allows the staff to develop personal relationships with students and to become familiar with the strengths and needs of each one. The school's caring learning environment has resulted in an almost non-existent dropout rate, a nearly perfect attendance rate, and very few

"...if there is a problem and you don't call us, we'll call you, with the goal of making your child's educational experience as fulfilling as it can be."

discipline problems. Like the teachers who serve as their role models, St. Elizabeth R-IV High School students are invested in their school and actively participate in many activities, including Future Business Leaders of America, yearbook staff, athletics, and academic bowl. These activities enhance the classroom experience, teaching students the broader goals of responsibility, teamwork, cooperation, and the value of always striving for excellence.

St. Elizabeth R-IV High School is the heart and soul of a community that values educational opportunities, and the school enjoys considerable support from parents and the local business community. Almost all parents of St. Elizabeth students take advantage of the opportunity to work with the school in some way during the school year. Community members are active on school committees, such as the A+ Committee, the Technology Committee, the Facilities Committee, and the Curriculum Committee. Several local businesses have joined together to sponsor a scholarship program that is administered by the St. Elizabeth Alumni Association. In turn, the school contributes to the community through programs such as the building trades program, the first of its kind in the state, which has built over 40 homes in the district while allowing students to learn a trade.

A Vision for the Future – Preparing Students to Succeed

In keeping with the district's mission, St. Elizabeth R-IV High School focuses on providing students with experiences that will prepare them for succeeding in their post-secondary endeavors. Upto-date technology complements a rigorous curriculum, ensuring that students have the necessary skills to be successful in the workplace. An excellent technology plan assists staff in monitoring technology needs. The A+ Schools program and extensive tutorial program enhances students' academic potential. Students are provided with many opportunities to explore possibilities for their future. A job shadowing program allows students to interact with individuals in the business community, and a Career Fair brings back many graduates to discuss career options and the qualities required for success.

"The main goal...is to make our students productive citizens who maximize their potential to be contributing members of our community and society."

The community, recognizing that St. Elizabeth R-IV High School graduates often return to their hometown to begin their careers, places a great deal of emphasis on post-secondary education. Five separate local scholarship programs have either been initiated by school personnel or have been established in memory of a former educator.

Indeed, the future is bright for St. Elizabeth R-IV High School and its students. The district has received "Accredited with Distinction" designation, and students routinely score above state and national averages on the ACT. Approximately 70 percent of St. Elizabeth's graduates pursue post-secondary education.

Gold Star Practices - What's Working at St. Elizabeth R-IV High School

- ★ Instruction through "Successlink" gives students instruction on palm pilots and their practical use in college and the world of work.
- ★ Free after-school tutoring is available to any student who needs or wants it.
- ★ Additional or specifically certified staff members are assigned to meet diverse student needs.

St. Elizabeth R-IV High School represents a community-wide commitment to excellence. The pride that staff and students take in the job they do is reflected in the results they produce.